

CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A method of doing business by encoding, documenting and processing the procedures of alternative healthcare provider treatment, using a computer system having a programmable memory and a central processing unit comprising the steps of:

programming a computer system having a programmable memory and a central processing unit for operating a business;

inputting and encoding a patient pool in the computer system;

inputting and encoding a procedure claim from an alternative health provider for treating a patient in the patient pool;

inputting and encoding a data base of a plurality of alternative healthcare providers to yield an alternative practice type (APT) code to identify the provider;

choosing and retrieving an APT from the APT data base and matching with the provider's procedure claim;

inputting and encoding a database of alternative billing codes (ABC) for each of the plurality of alternative healthcare provider categories to yield a standard alternative billing code (ABC) data base;

choosing and retrieving an ABC from the ABC data base and comparing to the APT for a diagnostic match with the performed procedure;

24 providing a provider data (PD) data base by regional
25 location based on zip codes;
26 selecting a provider from the PD data base;
27 connecting the ABC product codes with a Universal Product
28 Code (UPC) and a National Drug Code (NDC) for detailed
29 information, and calculating the cost of the procedure;
30 generating a specific ABC cost and comparing with a
31 diagnosis code to form a comparison table of costs for the
32 procedure; and
33 sending the comparison table to an insurer or a third party
34 administrator for payment to the alternative health care
35 provider.

1 2. A programmed computer assembly for encoding, document-
2 ing and processing the procedures of alternative healthcare
3 provider treatment comprising:

4 a computer having a programmable memory and a central
5 processing unit;

6 a program installed on the computer having:

7 means for inputting and encoding a database of a
8 plurality of alternative healthcare providers, wherein each is
9 categorized by an alphanumeric indicia to yield an alternative
10 practice type (APT) code database;

11 means for inputting and encoding a database of
12 alternative billing codes (ABC) for each of the plurality of
13 alternative healthcare providers by an alphanumeric indicia to
14 yield a standard alternative billing code (ABC) database;

15 means for inputting and encoding a database of
16 provider data (PD) comprising: (1) each provider's zip code; (2)
17 each provider's specialty; (3) ABC product codes with any
18 modifying information; (4) a universal product code (UPC) for
19 each product and labeled with a UPC; (5) a national drug code
20 (NDC) for each product labeled with a NDC; (6) calculating an
21 average fee by provider specialty and region; and (7) generating
22 specific provider data;

23 means for processing the associated APT code, the
24 associated ABC code, and the generated the PD code;

25 means for generating an ABC from the associated APT
code, the associated ABC code, and the generated PD code;

27 means for comparing the generated ABC string by
28 diagnosis from the International Classification of
29 Diseases' conventional procedural treatment strings to form
30 a comparison table; and
31 means for publishing the comparison table for sending the
32 comparison results to an alternative health care provider.

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